

**ABSTRACT**

A staged or serial deionization system is described. The system includes N deionization subsystems. The system has a charging state for deionizing fluid and a discharging state for deionizing the respective deionization subsystem. In the charging state, ionized fluid is discharged serially. In the discharging state, N deionization subsystems are discharged in parallel, thereby reducing the ecological impact of the discharge brine.